

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of Wesley
2 Dennis "W.D." Owens, Jr.

3 WHEREAS, Wesley Dennis "W.D." Owens, Jr. was a native Kentuckian and the
4 son of Wesley Dennis Owens, Sr. and Mary Carter Owens; and

5 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens served in the Army during World War II, having a role in
6 the Tojo war crimes trial in Japan in 1945; and

7 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens was a charter member of Chapel Hill Methodist Church,
8 where he sang in the choir for 30 years and coached the successful men's basketball team;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens started Owens Electric and Henderson Electric and was
11 the co-founder of West Kentucky Plastics who, upon retirement, became known as the
12 "Lamp Doctor"; and

13 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens was a Mason, Rotarian, and longtime chair of the
14 Henderson Democratic Party. Devoted to his community, he ran for City Commissioner,
15 was the first chair of the Human Rights Commission, helped bring Habitat for Humanity
16 to Henderson, and was chair of the Zoning Commission and a board member of the Hugh
17 Edward Sandefur Training Center. Mr. Owens and his wife traveled abroad as members
18 in Friendship Force, which is a nonprofit organization that promotes understanding and
19 cultural education among citizens in more than 60 countries; and

20 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens was an accomplished softball pitcher for Chrysler
21 Corporation and was voted into the Henderson County Hall of Fame. He became a men's
22 and women's softball coach; and

23 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens enjoyed politics, history, UK sports, and humor; and

24 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens departed this earthly life on October 27, 2017; and

25 WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, W.D. Owens was preceded in passing by his
26 brother, James Owens; sister, Francis Biggs; and grandson, Ryan Morgan Owens; and

27 WHEREAS, W.D. Owens is survived by his wife, Joyce; daughter, Marsha Mullins

1 and her husband, Morris; sons, Dennis Owens and his wife, Becky, and Randy Owens
2 and his wife, Marla; sister, Margaret Keach; six grandchildren, Wesley Owens, Whitney
3 Smith, Paul Owens, Patrick Adamson, Denise Newman, and Cassie Owens; ten
4 grandchildren, Nadia Adamson, Jacob Newman, Ethan Owens, Morgan Smith, Laney
5 Owens, London Owens, Owen Smith, Ava Newman, Emma Owens, and Knox Adamson;
6 and numerous nieces, nephews, and other family members who will dearly miss his
7 presence in their lives;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

9 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
10 *Kentucky:*

11 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its most profound sense of sorrow and
12 extends its sincerest condolences to the family, friends, and community of Wesley Dennis
13 "W.D." Owens, Jr. on the occasion of his passing.

14 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
15 memory of Wesley Dennis "W.D." Owens, Jr.

16 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
17 Resolution to Senator Dorsey Ridley for delivery to the family.